

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF HEARING AID INSTRUMENT
DISPENSERS AND FITTERS**

May 6, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

Sam White, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Hearing Aid Instrument Dispensers and Fitters to order on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at 9:07 a.m., at the Cornhusker State Industries, 800 Pioneers Blvd, Lincoln, NE, Conference Room C. The meeting was duly publicized by distribution of the Notice of Meeting and Agenda ten (10) days prior to the meeting and posting the agenda at the entrance of the Department of Health and Human Services/Division of Public Health at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

The following Board members and State Staff were present at the meeting:

Sam White, Chairperson, Professional Member
Stephen Boney, PhD, Vice-Chairperson. (Entered the meeting at 9:15 a.m.)
Margaret Coleman, Secretary, Consumer Member
Kimberly Joyce, Professional Member
Evelyn McKnight, Professional Member

Absent Board Member: Alan Nissen, M.D., Otolaryngologist

Diane Hansmeyer, DHHS Administrator
Delores James, DHHS Health Licensing Coordinator
Julie Agena, Assistant Attorney General

Adoption of the Agenda

Joyce moved, seconded by McKnight, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting aye: White, Coleman, McKnight, Boney and Joyce. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Boney and Nissen. Motion carried.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS REVIEW

Hansmeyer reviewed the regulations promulgation process with the Board; the proposed regulations are sent to the Governor for approval to go to public hearing, then after the public hearing they will go to the Attorney General, to the Governor and to the Secretary of State. And five days after they are sent to the Secretary of State they become effective.

Temporary License

The Board/staff discussed temporary licensure and the training that should take place within the first ninety (90) days. Hansmeyer said that the Board should make sure that the first 50 hours fall within the 90 day training period. The Board stated that the training should cover; observation during the first 25 days, and hands on training during the 2nd 25 day period and will include dispensing of hearing aides.

Motion

Joyce moved, seconded by Coleman, to use the following language in section 75-004.01, page 14 of the proposed regulations: The supervisor must meet with the temporary licensee face to face twice weekly during the first ninety days of the initial training period. Thereafter, the supervisor must meet with the temporary licensee monthly to evaluate the temporary licensee's performance in the following areas....Twenty five hours of the training must cover observation and the next twenty five hours must cover audiometer. Voting aye: White, Boney, Coleman, Joyce and McKnight. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Nissan. Motion carried.

Motion

Hansmeyer stated that the Board may not have another board meeting until the public hearing for regulations and that staff will send out a mail ballot and let board members vote on the language to use in the temporary licensure section of the pending regulations.

CONVICTION GUIDELINES (Attachment A)

Hansmeyer gave the board a copy of conviction guidelines developed by the Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors and stated that this information was given to them because staff is seeing more misdemeanors with MIP's and DUI's and the alcohol and drug counselors have more expertise in dealing with these type of offenses. The Board was asked to review this information for decide if they want to adopt it.

Motion to Adopt the Conviction Guideline

McKnight moved, seconded by Coleman, to adopt the Conviction Guidelines with the appendix from the Board of Alcohol and Drug Counselors Conviction Guidelines. Voting aye: Boney, Joyce, White, Coleman and McKnight. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Nissen. Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (Attachment B)

LB 451 changes the name of the Board of Hearing Aid Instrument Dispensers and Fitters to Board of Hearing Instrument Specialists and the composition of the Board is five professional members and one public member and they are; three licensed hearing instrument specialists not holding licenses as audiologists, one otolaryngologist and one audiologist. This bill has been amended into LB 195.

OLD BUSINESS

How Consumers Can Identify Credential Holders (Attachment C)

The Board was given copies of LB 38-124, which states that the Department with the recommendation of the Board shall determine how a consumer will be able to identify a credential holder. The method of identification shall be clear and easily accessed and used by the consumer. Hansmeyer stated that each board needs to discuss this and place something in their regulations regarding what will identify a credential holder. The Board reviewed two examples of language and decided to use one of them.

Motion

McKnight moved, seconded by Joyce, to approve language similar to that of the Board of Physical Therapy. The language reads as follows: Method of Identification: Hearing Aid Instrument Dispensers and Fitters/Hearing Instrument Specialists will identify themselves verbally, through signage, and other written mediums to the public, as per Nebraska Statute 38-124. The initials HAID&F and HIS, HAID&F Temporary and HIS Temporary are the acceptable identifiers. Voting aye: Boney, Joyce, White, Coleman and McKnight. Voting nay: None. Absent and not voting: Nissan. Motion carried.

Questions about the California Licensure Examination

This agenda item will be tabled until the next board meeting.

Graphic for Board Stationary (Joyce)

Kim Joyce is working on graphics for Board stationary with her husband and will bring some examples to the next meeting for the Board to select from.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

MISCELLANEOUS

Next Board Meeting: December 11, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Coleman, Secretary

Prepared by Delores James, Health Licensing Coordinator